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**From:** Stavnes, Sandra [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D64190DCB8D24B9B8F2B58DD22419836-STAVNES, SANDRA]  
**Sent:** 4/14/2014 2:31:43 PM  
**To:** Gautam, Nawodit [Gautam.Nawodit@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Hot Topic: Columbia Falls Aluminum Smelter Site Public Meeting

Hot topic to go with previous email.

Sandy

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Sandra A. Stavnes  
Deputy Assistant Regional Administrator  
Ecosystems Protection and Remediation (8EPR)  
USEPA Region 8  
1595 Wynkoop St  
Denver, CO 80202  
email: [stavnes.sandra@epa.gov](mailto:stavnes.sandra@epa.gov)  
phone: 303-312-6117

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**From:** Ketellapper, Victor  
**Sent:** Friday, April 11, 2014 10:57 AM  
**To:** Hestmark, Martin; Miller, Johanna; Stavnes, Sandra; Gautam, Nawodit  
**Subject:** Hot Topic: Columbia Falls Aluminum Smelter Site Public Meeting

\* COLUMBIA FALLS ALUMINUM SMELTER PUBLIC MEETING: On April 22, Region 8 staff will be holding a public meeting in Columbia Falls, MT to present the findings of the Site Reassessment of the Columbia Falls Aluminum Smelter. MDEQ staff is participating in the meeting. The site reassessment indicates that the site is eligible for designation as a Superfund site. Thus, a portion of this meeting will discuss state programs that would be an alternative to Superfund Site designation that could lead to a comprehensive cleanup of the site. Also, the additional residential well sampling being conducted by the EPA Emergency Response program will be discussed. This sampling is in response to finding elevated levels of cyanide in 2 residential wells. None of the results exceeded the Safe Drinking Water Act MCL for cyanide. Region 8 and MDEQ staff will also meet with congressional staff, local elected officials, city staff, and other interested parties individually on April 22 and 23. Contacts: Rob Parker (312-6664) and Victor Ketellapper (312-6578)

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**From:** Miller, Johanna  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 10, 2014 4:30 PM  
**To:** Stavnes, Sandra; Hestmark, Martin  
**Subject:** FW: Article on Columbia Falls Aluminum

[http://www.flatheadnewsgroup.com/hungryhorsenews/article\\_ea13dc3a-bff0-11e3-980b-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.flatheadnewsgroup.com/hungryhorsenews/article_ea13dc3a-bff0-11e3-980b-001a4bcf887a.html)

I want to make sure you know that Victor and Rob, along with representatives from MT DEQ will be having a public meeting next week to discuss the results of the site reassessment. They will also meet separately with local officials and representatives from Senator Walsh and Testers offices as well as Glencore (the property owner). Below are our basic key messages for the meeting and I have attached the broader communication strategy.

**Key Messages Regarding Follow Up Sampling**

- Cyanide was detected in two of the five residential wells sampled as part of the September 2013 sampling event. Concentrations of cyanide in both wells were below Safe Drinking Water Act allowable limits (the Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL) but above the conservative EPA Risk Based Screening Level.
- EPA is resampling wells and sampling additional wells in the neighborhood adjacent to and downgradient of the CFAC property.
- EPA doesn't believe there is an immediate risk to well owners, but is following up on the cyanide detections from the previous sampling event to determine if other wells are impacted with cyanide.
- Access to safe drinking water for nearby well owners is a priority for EPA.

#### **Key Messages Regarding Next Steps at the Facility Itself**

- EPA believes this site is eligible for the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL)
- EPA will continue to coordinate with Montana DEQ as there are other state lead programs that could facilitate a more comprehensive investigation and cleanup.
- EPA plans to work with our State counterparts, local officials, and other stakeholders to determine what cleanup is necessary and the most effective approach moving forward.
- The EPA will work closely with the community to discuss potential human health and environmental concerns posed by the site and can support local needs, including the potential redevelopment of this facility.